

The background of the slide is a composite image of space. On the left, a curved edge of Earth with white clouds and blue oceans is visible. In the upper center, a large, detailed Moon is shown. In the upper right corner, a portion of the reddish-orange surface of Mars is visible. The rest of the background is a deep black space filled with numerous stars and a faint, glowing purple and blue nebula or galaxy structure.

# Advanced Space Transportation Program

Presentation to

***Space Transportation Lead Center  
Program Management Council***



*March 2nd, 2000*



***The overall ASTP objective is to provide the technologies to reduce risk for operational system developments while addressing future breakthrough technologies beyond the next generation.***

- ◆ **ASTP will mature those technologies that will provide the greatest total safety improvement and cost savings over the life of a space transportation system. This will be accomplished through focused activities (mission and customer“pull”).**
- ◆ **ASTP will seek to advance technologies that increase performance margin, thus enabling missions that are currently not technically or economically feasible (technology “push”). These missions include safe, routine earth-to-orbit transportation (Spaceliners), rapid human and robotic transportation to the planets and nearby celestial bodies and interstellar missions.**



# Earth-to-Orbit Goals, Objectives and Challenges

Overview

2000 PMC

## Goals

10x Cost Reduction &  
100x Safety Increase  
by 2010

100x Cost Reduction &  
10,000x Safety Increase  
by 2025

### Technology Objective

- Increase System Performance margin

- Drive Down Operations Costs

- Drive Down Manufacturing and Production Costs

- Drive Down Design, Development, Test and Evaluation Costs

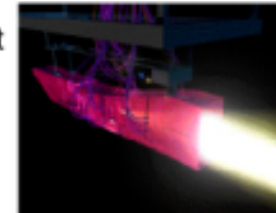
### Challenge

- Increased Engine Thrust/Weight
- Increased Mission Specific Impulse
- Improve Mass Fraction
- Increased Range (Cross and Down)

- Increased Margin
- Increased Reliability
- Increased Life
- Increased Vehicle Health/State Knowledge
- Reduced Labor
- Reduced Processing
- Reduced Facilities/GSE
- Reduced Maintenance

- Reduced Facilities
- Reduced Tooling
- Reduced Material Cost
- Reduced Labor

- Reduced Design Cycle Time
- Reduced Weight
- Reduced Complexity
- Increased Technology Readiness Level @ Insertion







# In-Space Goals, Objectives and Challenges

Overview

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## Goals

10x Cost Reduction  
and 2–3 Reduction  
in Mass  
and Travel Time

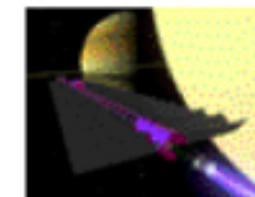
Enable Bold New  
Interstellar Missions  
by Reducing Travel  
Time 10–100x

### Technology Objective

- Affordable Earth Orbital
- Fast Interplanetary Transfer
- Efficient Orbit Insertion/Planetary Capture
- Efficient Ascent/Descent
- Enabling Interstellar

### Challenge

- Long Life, High Power Electric Propulsion
- High Performance Chemical Systems
- Advanced Cryogenic Engine
- Reusable Transfer Vehicle Technologies
- Longer Life, Lighter Weight Ion Engines
- High Power Electric Propulsion
- Light Solar Sails, Beamed Energy
- Nuclear Options
- Ultra-light Tanks, Feed Systems For Chemical Engines
- Aerocapture Technologies
- Milli-newton Thrusters For Precise Pointing
- Ultra-light Tanks, Feed Systems For Chemical Engines
- In-situ Propellant Utilization
- GN&C For Precision Landing
- Concept Architecture Studies
- Ultra-light Solar Sails, Ultra-high Power Laser
- Fusion Energy
- Matter/Anti-matter Annihilation



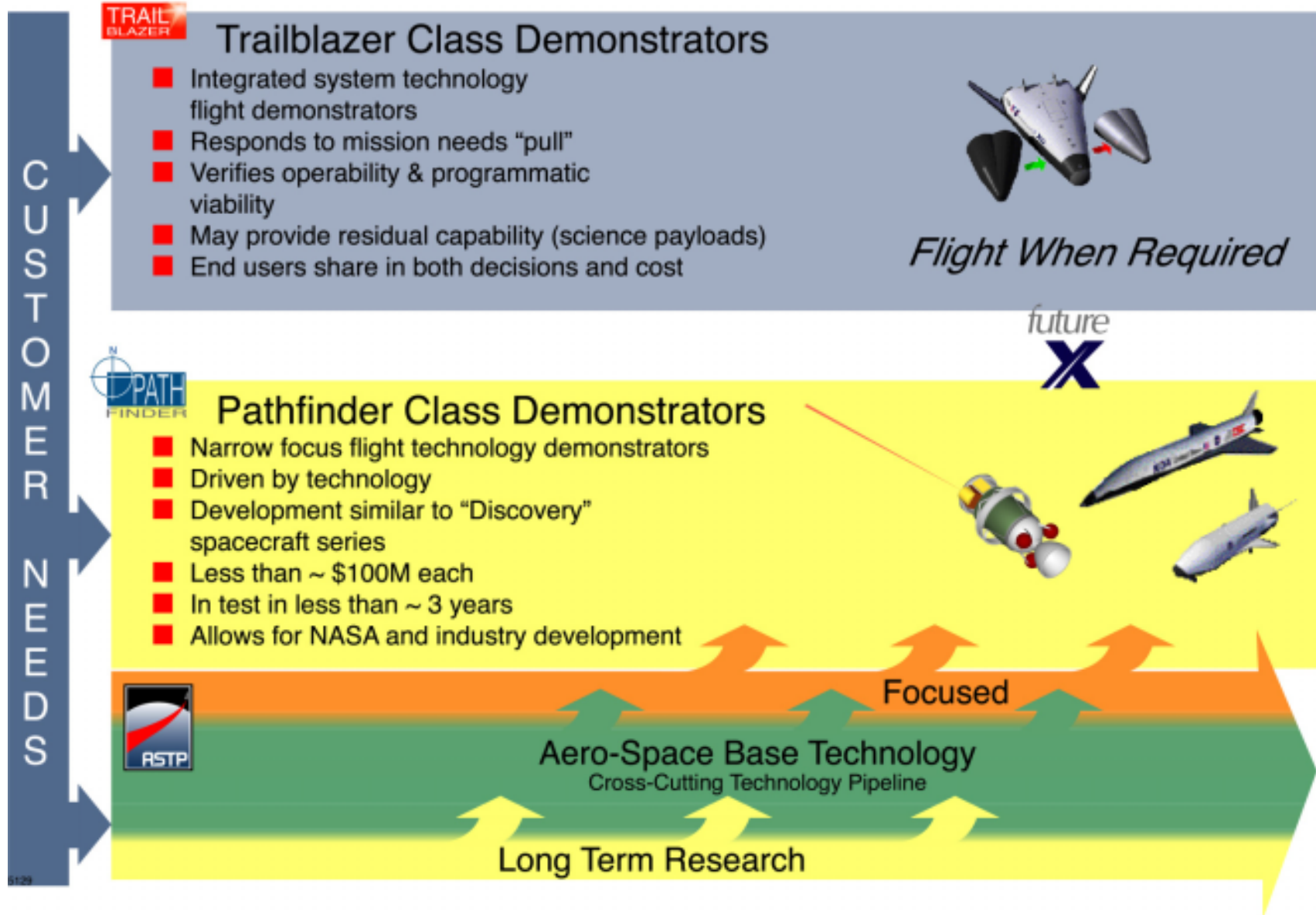




# Three Tiered Technology Maturation Approach

Overview

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# ASTP Organization is Driven By Goals

Overview

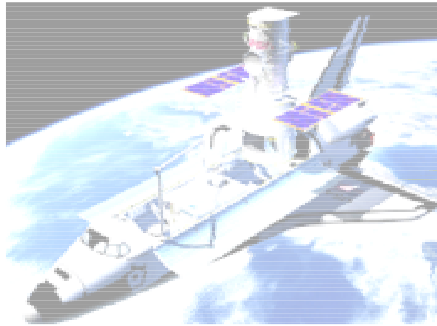
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|                 | Pillar 3           |                |   |                        |  |   |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|---|------------------------|--|---|
|                 |                    |                |   |                        |  |   |
| Goal            | Earth-to-Orbit     | Earth-to-Orbit | In-Space                                  | In-Space               | Earth-to-Orbit                           | Earth-to-Orbit & In-Space                                       |
| Investment Area | 2nd Generation RLV |                | In-Space                                  |                        | Spaceliner 100<br>(3rd Generation RLV)   | Space Transportation Research                                   |
| Projects        | Fastrac            | RLV Focused    | Upper Stages<br>Space Transfer Technology | Interstellar Precursor | Propulsion<br>Airframe<br>Launch Vehicle | IVHM<br>Operations & Range                                      |
|                 |                    |                |   |                        |  | Breakthrough Propulsion Physics<br>Advanced Propulsion Research |

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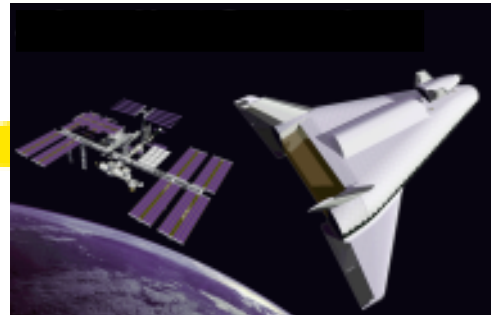


# ASTP Earth-to-Orbit Investments Support Several Generations of RLV's



## Today: Space Shuttle 1st Generation RLV

- Orbital Scientific Platform
- Satellite Retrieval and Repair
- Satellite Deployment



## 2010: 2nd Generation RLV

- Space Transportation
- Rendezvous, Docking, Crew Transfer
- Other on-orbit operations
- ISS Orbital Scientific Platform
- 10x Cheaper
- 100x Safer



## 2025: 3rd Generation RLV

- New Markets Enabled
- Multiple Platforms / Destinations
- 100x Cheaper
- 10,000x Safer

## 2040: 4th Generation RLV

- Routine Passenger Space Travel
- 1,000x Cheaper
- 20,000x Safer







# Key Program Events of the Past Year

Overview

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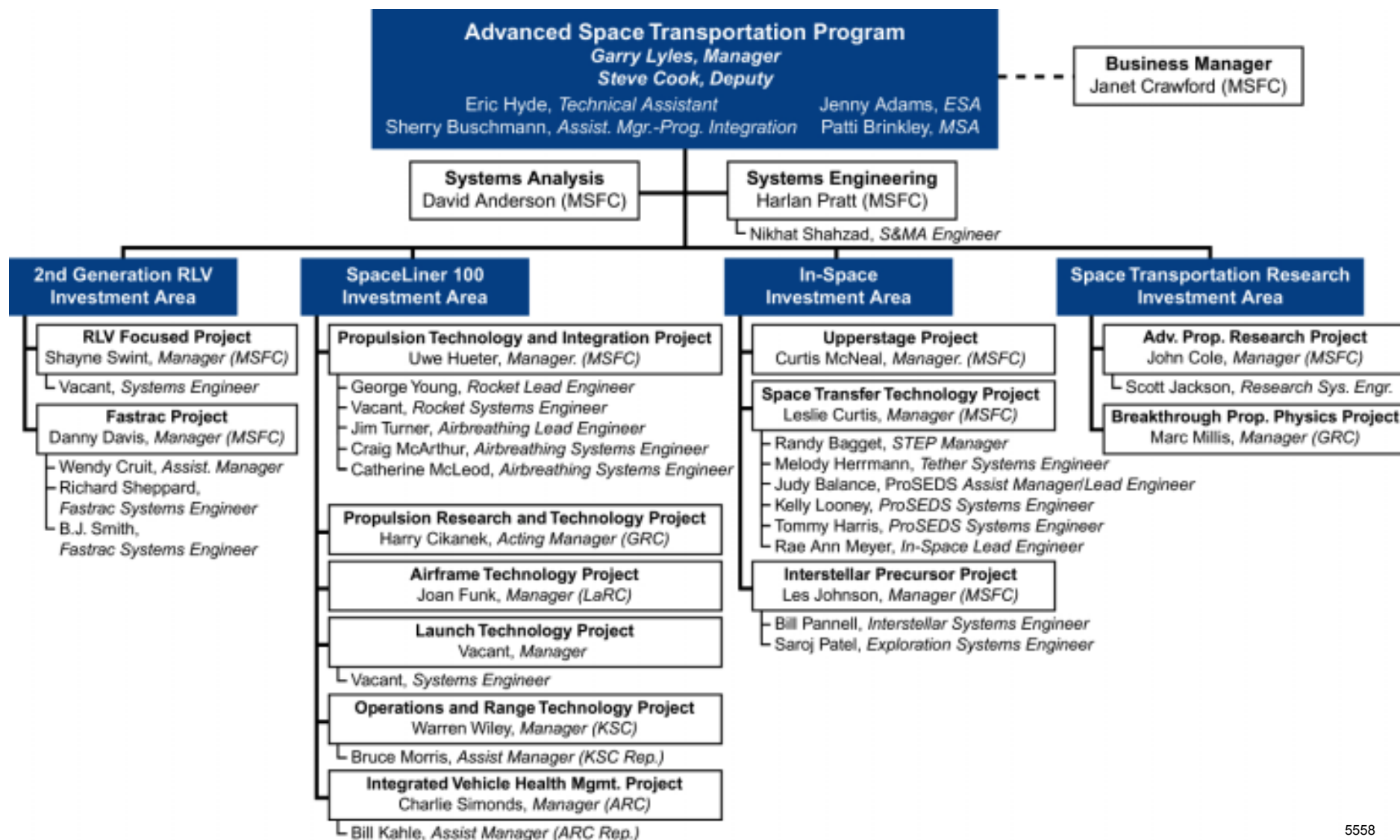
- ◆ **Late 1998:** Bantam Project Rescoped to Focus on Advanced Technologies
- ◆ **Spring 1999:** NASA Administrator Advocates Long Term Investment Strategy for Space Launch – Spaceliner 100
- ◆ **Summer 1999:** Enterprise Team Develops Spaceliner Investment Plan
- ◆ **Summer 1999:** Bantam Project Cancelled – Tasks Used to Initiate Spaceliner 100
- ◆ **Fall 1999:** \$80M Congressional Plusup for Spaceliner 100
- ◆ **Fall 1999:** ISTP Combines 2nd and 3rd Generation Investments in One Integrated Plan
- ◆ **Late 1999:** ASTP is Reorganized and Incorporated into the Aero-Space Base to Foster Synergy with Aeronautics



# Multi-Center Program Organization

Overview

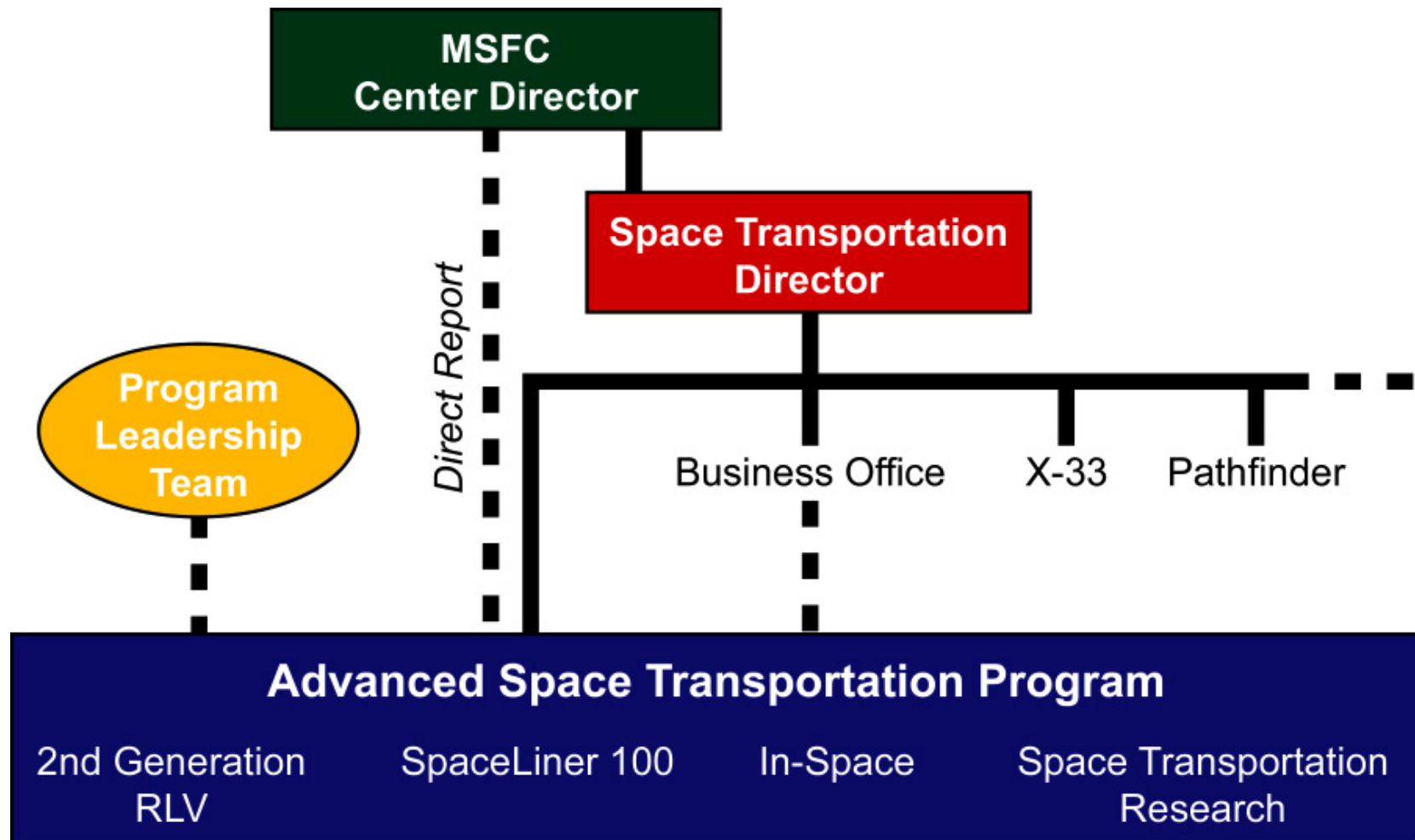
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# MSFC Organizational Structure







|  | ARC | DFRC | GRC | GSFC | JPL | JSC | KSC | LaRC | MSFC | SSC |
|--|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|
| <b>Program Management</b>  |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Systems Engineering, Vehicle Design and Integration</b>         |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Systems Analysis (Intercenter Systems Analysis Team (ISAT))</b> | x   | x    | x   |      | x   | x   | x   | x    | x    | x   |
| <b>Propulsion System Design &amp; Integration</b>                  |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Advanced Propellants   |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Turbopump System Design & Integration                            |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Turbomachinery Component R&T                                     |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Combustion Component R&T   |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - On-board Storable Propellant Reaction Control Systems            |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - In-space Cryo Fluid Management                                   | x   |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - In-situ Propellant Production                                    |     |      |     |      | x   |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Rocket Engine Propulsion Systems                                 |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Combined Cycle Propulsion Systems                                |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Combined Cycle Flowpath Performance / Turbine                    |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Aero/Aerothermodynamics/Dual-Mode Ram/Scramjet                   |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| - Aeropropulsion Systems   |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Micropropulsion  |     |      | x   |      | x   |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Non-chemical Propulsion Research                                 |     |      | x   |      | x   |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Advanced Deep Space Propulsion Concepts                          |     |      |     |      | x   |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Propulsion System Analysis                                       |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Electric Propulsion Systems</b>                                 |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - On-board Electric Propulsion                                     |     |      | x   |      | x   |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Rocket Propulsion System and Subsystem Testing</b>              |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      |      | x   |
| - Propulsion Test  |     |      | x   |      |     | x   |     |      | x    |     |



# Dependencies and Reliances Cont'd

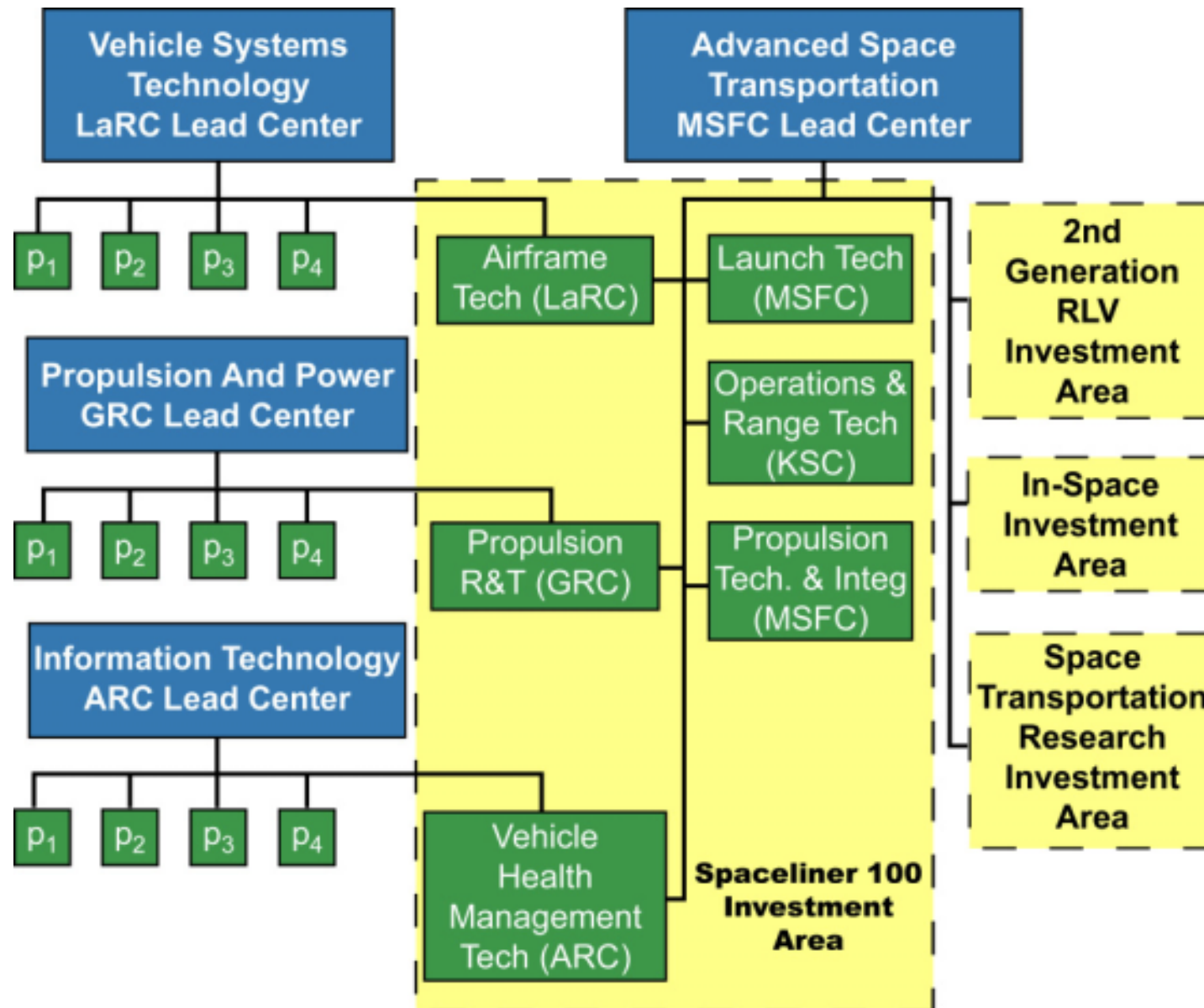
|   | ARC | DFRC | GRC | GSFC | JPL | JSC | KSC | LaRC | MSFC | SSC |
|---|-----|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|
| <b>Integrated Vehicle Health Management Architecture</b>  | x   |      |     |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Integrated Vehicle Health Management                    | x   |      | x   |      | x   | x   | x   | x    | x    |     |
| <b>Avionics Systems Design &amp; Integration</b>          |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Advanced Instrumentation                                | x   | x    | x   | x    |     | x   |     | x    | x    |     |
| - Guidance Navigation and Control                         |     |      |     | x    |     |     |     | x    | x    |     |
| - Micro-electronics                                       |     |      |     |      | x   |     |     |      |      |     |
| <b>Power Systems</b>                                      |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| - Power Sub-systems                                       |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Power Systems Distribution                              |     |      | x   |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Structural and Mechanical Design &amp; Integration</b> |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| - Propellant Tankage, Cryo Insulation and Feed Systems    |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    | x    |     |
| <b>Advanced Manufacturing and Processes</b>               |     |      |     |      |     |     |     |      | x    |     |
| <b>Materials Research</b>                                 |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| - Materials Research                                      | x   |      | x   |      | x   | x   | x   | x    | x    |     |
| <b>Airframe Design</b>                                    |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| - Metallic Thermal Protection Systems                     |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| - Integrated Thermal Structures                           |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| <b>Thermal Protection Systems</b>                         | x   |      |     |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |
| <b>Crew and Passenger Systems</b>                         |     |      |     |      |     | x   |     |      |      |     |
| - Crew Interfaces   |     |      |     |      |     |     |     | x    |      |     |
| <b>Payload and Launch Operations</b>                      |     |      |     |      |     |     | x   |      |      |     |
| - Range Safety  |     |      |     |      |     |     | x   |      |      |     |
| - Operations Technology                                   |     | x    |     |      |     |     | x   |      |      |     |
| <b>Atmospheric Flight Operations</b>                      |     | x    |     |      |     |     |     |      |      |     |



# OAT Aero-Space Base Programs Structure

Overview

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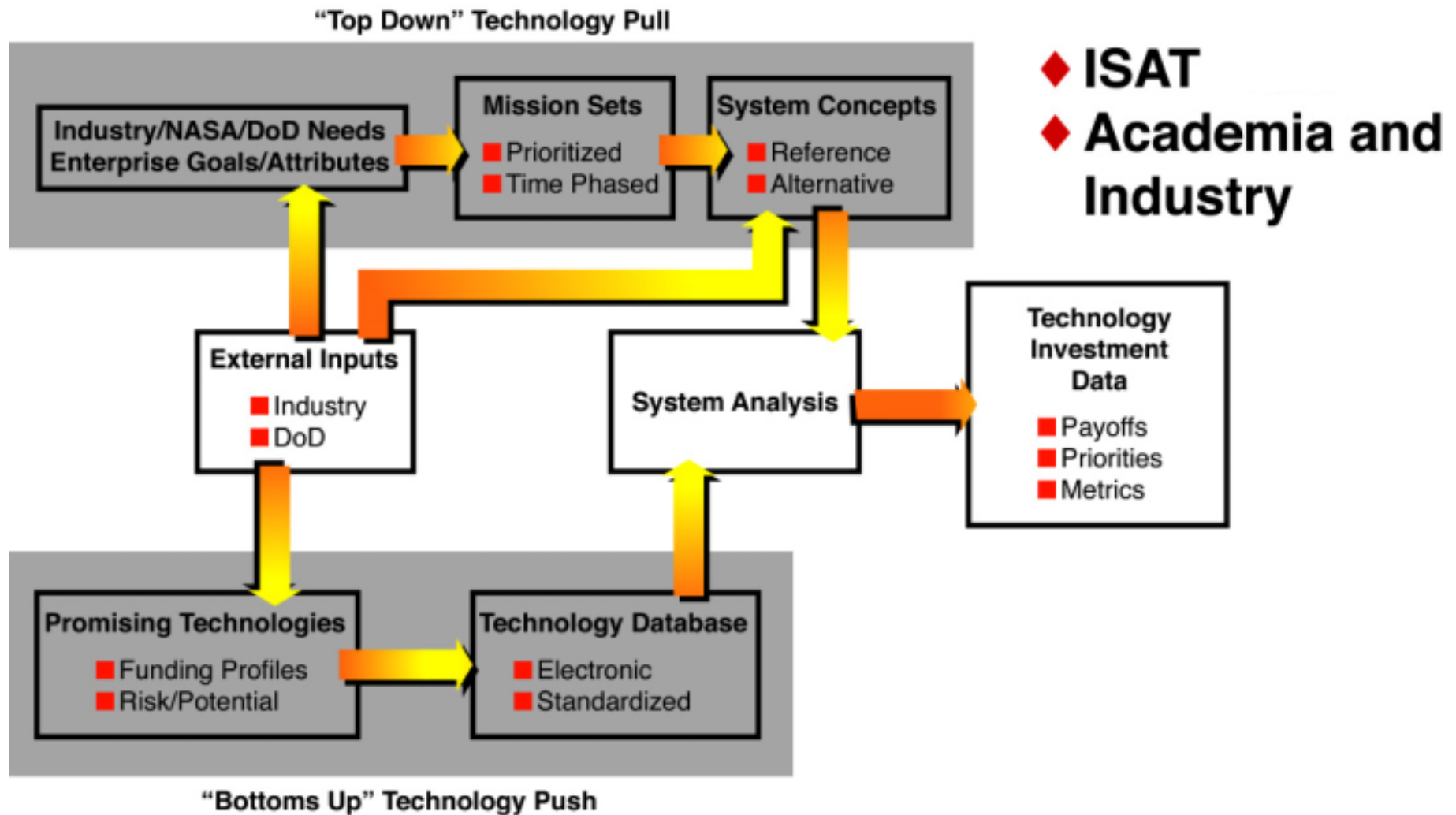




# Systems Analysis Will Guide Future Investments

Overview

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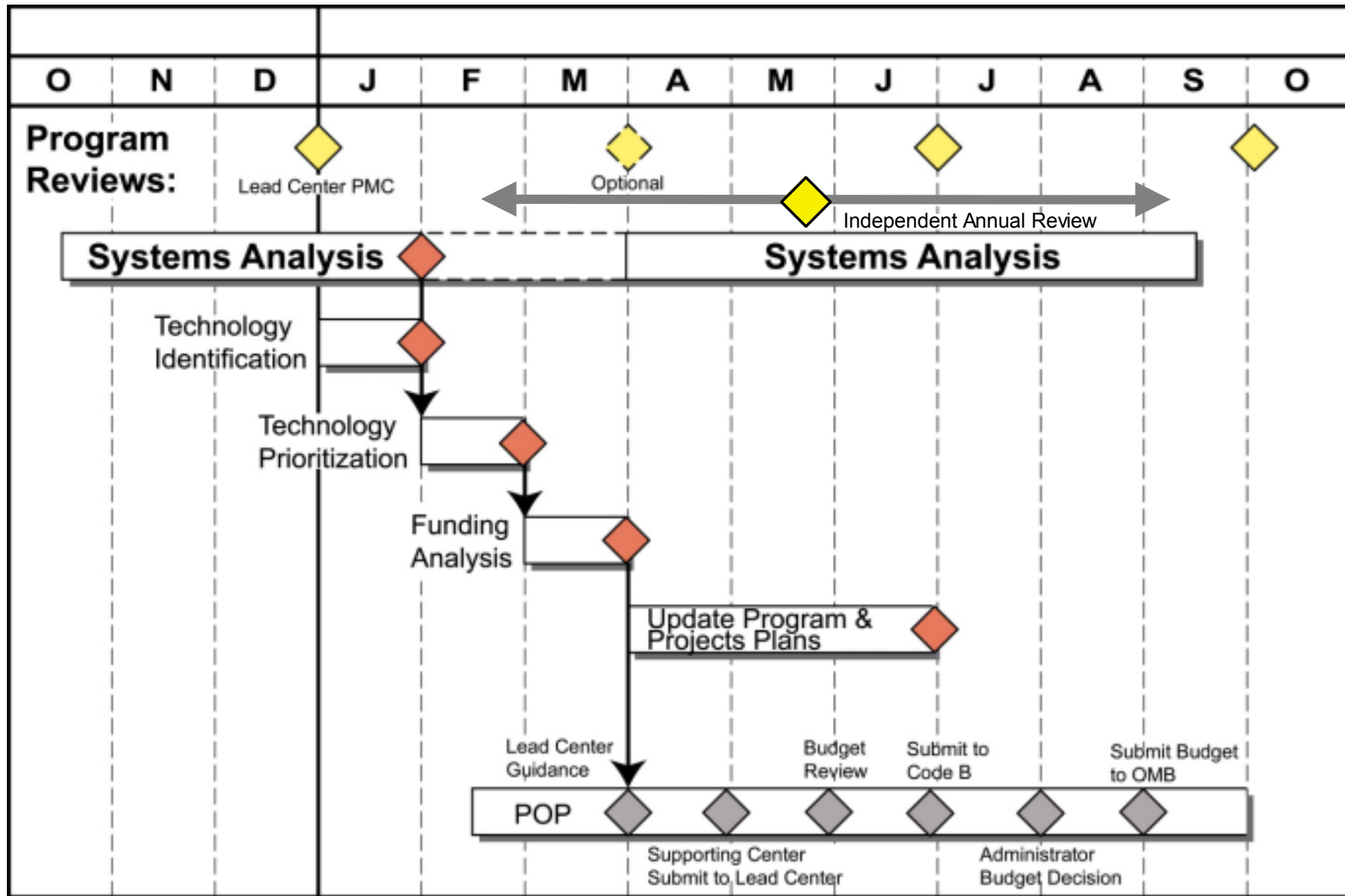




# Annual Planning Process

Overview

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# Program (Level 1) Milestone Status

Overview

2000 PMC

| Milestone   | Date   | Output   | Outcome  | Status |
|---|--------|--|--|--------|
| Complete NSTAR Mission Profile Testing  | Sep-00 | Complete NSTAR Mission Profile (100% design life) ground testing for Deep Space-1 (concurrent, identical firing of an NSTAR engine in a vacuum chamber with the actual firing sequence of the in-flight propulsion system).                        | Allows increased payload capability over chemical systems, reducing launch mass.   | G      |
| Complete 500-hour Test of 10-kW Hall Electric Thruster  | Jun-00 | 500-hour demonstration of a 10-kW Hall thruster in ground testing  | Allows increased payload capability over chemical systems, reducing launch mass  | G      |
| LOX Densifier verification testing and completion of hydrogen densifier build   | Jun-00 | Validate design, technology and operational characteristics of X-33 scale liquid oxygen propellant densifier, and prove readiness for use in experimental propulsion ground test or flight test program. Completion of Hydrogen densifier assembly | Data base for design and development of operational equipment for densification which when employed provides a 5-15% volume advantage which directly translates into reduced cost/increased performance. | G      |
| Deliver Fastrac Engine to X-34  | Jun-00 | 1st Fastrac engine certified for flight on the X-34  | Significant reduction in the development cost of Earth-to-orbit propulsion   | G      |
| Complete fabrication of Metal Matrix Composite (MMC) & Polymer Matrix Composite (PMC) thrust cell chamber demonstration units | Aug-00 | Delivery of multiple demonstration units, each fabricated with different composite structural jackets surrounding a new copper alloy liner.  | Demonstrate successful fabrication of thrust cell chambers using new material systems that offer weight savings up to 40%.   | G      |
| Advanced TPS panel development, fabrication and test  | Sep-00 | Database of advanced TPS coatings and materials. Advanced TPS concept validated through ground test.   | Advanced TPS is more robust and required significantly less maintenance than current ceramic tile and blanket TPS.   | G      |
| Composite Cryogenic Tank and Integrated Structures Demonstration  | Jul-01 | Validation of PMC cryogenic LH2 and LOX tanks to include validation of compatible materials systems and processes, fabrication and joining of large-scale articles, and demonstrated thermal-structural performance                                | Significant weight reduction for RLV cryotanks and primary structure can be quantified through actual test data.   | G      |
| Airbreathing Engine System Selection for first Flight Demonstrator  | Sep-01 | Engine preliminary designs reviews complete  | Establish preferred airbreathing engine concept for FY 05 flight demonstrator which will directly  | G      |
| Flowpath Definition and Testing Completed for First Flight Demonstrator   | Sep-01 | Flowpath characterization complete   | Used as criteria for airbreathing demonstrator engine selection which directly supports the long term objectives of Goal 9.  | G      |





# Risk Management Approach

Overview

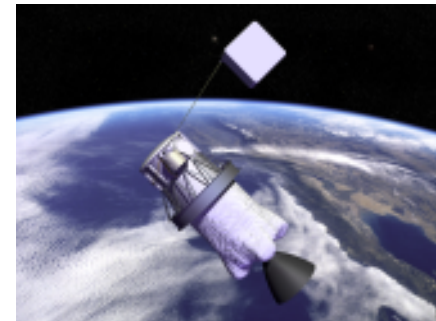
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- ◆ **The Advanced Space Transportation Base R&T Program Office will assess risk on a continuous basis.**
  - **Each project manager will identify the principal technical risks and document these risks in the applicable project plan.**
- ◆ **The primary risk drivers for base technology development programs are:**
  - **(1) Critical enabling technologies encountering unexpected developmental difficulties**
  - **(2) Availability of financial and human resources**
  - **(3) Availability of critical facilities**
- ◆ **Risk beyond the scope of that which can be managed within an individual area will be addressed by**
  - **Reallocation of Resources**
  - **Descope or Deletion of Work Based on Systems Payoff**



## ◆ All ASTP Managed Activities Except:

- Fastrac Engine (Separate Independent Review Underway)
- In-Space Pathfinder Program Experiments *Managed by ASTP*
  - PROSEDS
  - Hall Thruster
  - Cryo Propellant Gauge



## ◆ Remaining Activities are *Ground Based*

